

OLC RECORD COPY

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*for*  
OLC 77-5557/a



**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

Office of Legislative Counsel  
Washington, D. C. 20505

14 February 1978

**TO:** Mr. Pat Long  
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence  
House of Representatives

Dear Pat:

Attached, per your request, is the information you requested on Soviet satellites. My apologies for the delay of this material.



Assistant Legislative Counsel

FORM 1533 OBSOLETE  
6-68 PREVIOUS EDITIONS

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As indicative of any one day, on 30 January the  
number of Soviet satellites known to be active were:

<u>Military and Intelligence Related</u>	<u>Number Active</u>
Command Site Checkout	2
Communications	55*
Elint Reconnaissance	11
Geodetic	3
Launch Detection	4
Navigation	10
Photographic Reconnaissance	3
Photographic Related	0
Radar Reconnaissance	0
Radar Support	5
Satellite Interceptor	0
Satellite Target	2
Space Stations	1
Weather (Meteorological)	9
<u>Prestige &amp; Scientific Space Systems</u>	
Manned & Manned Related	4
Lunar	0
Planetary	0
R&D & Uncategorized	2
Scientific	<u>5</u>
Total Active:	116

\* Includes two categories of low-capacity communications satellites.  
One type consists of several satellites launched simultaneously by  
one booster and deployed in space.

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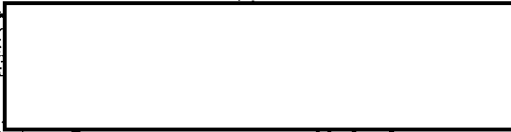
During 1977, the Soviets launched the following number of satellites:

<u>Military and Intelligence Related Space Systems</u>	<u>Number Launched</u>	<u>Approximate Average Lifetime</u>
Command Site Checkout	2	12 mo.
Communications	11	18 mo.
Elint Reconnaissance	7	18 mo.
Geodetic	2	18 mo.
Launch Detection	3	25 days
Navigation	7	18 mo.
Photographic Reconnaissance	30	13, 30 days
Photographic Related	3	13 days
Radar Reconnaissance	2	2-3 mo.
Radar Support	4	30 mo.
Satellite Interceptor	4	1 day
Satellite Target	3	2-3 mo.
Space Stations	1	over 2 yrs.
Weather (Meteorological)	4	24 mo.
 <u>Prestige &amp; Scientific Space Systems</u>		
Manned	2	days
Manned-Related	2	months
Lunar	0	varies
Planetary	0	varies
R&D & Uncategorized	3	varies
Scientific	7	varies
Total Launched:	97	
Launch Failures:	4	

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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
PERMANENT SELECT  
COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515



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CIA -ULL.

Pat:

Please send me  
a summary of what the  
Soviets are operating in  
space - #'s, mission  
frequency / duration etc.

Please include info on  
what they do in peripheral  
recognition - aircraft / other  
(perhaps ships)

Thanks

Pat Lay  
Ass. Comm.

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